

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/749,281

Confirmation No.

Applicant

Gene R. Anderson et al.

Filed:

December 26, 2000

TC/A.U.

2827

Examiner

Norris, Jeremy C.

Docket No.

1613370-0017

Customer No.:

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Melissa McCool Name

Signature

December 19, 2003

Date

## NINTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop I.D.S. Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references coming to the attention of Applicants or attorneys or agents for Applicants which are or may be material to the examination of the subject application, Attorneys for Applicants hereby invite the Examiner's attention to the reference(s) listed on the accompanying PTO Form SB/08A and SB/08B.

Applicants submit the present information disclosure statement under 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4). The document(s) identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A include documents which are cited in the International Search Report International Application No. PCT/US01/43354 ("the PCT application") of which the above-referenced application is

related to U.S. patent application 09/749,282. A copy of the International Search Report

("ISR") is included with this communication.

This submission is understood to complement the results of the Examiner's

own independent search. The submission should not be construed as a representation that a

search was made, or that the cited items are inclusive of all the relevant and material citations

that may be available publicly.

Copies of the cited reference(s) are enclosed. Applicants respectfully request

that the Examiner review the attached references and that they be made of record in the file

history of the above-captioned application.

Applicants believe that there is no fee due in connection with the filing of this

Information Disclosure Statement, however, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is

hereby authorized to charge White & Case LLP Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: December 19, 2003

mes M. Wu (Reg. No. 45,241)

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## Filing Date INFORMATION DISCLOSURE First Named Inventor STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Art Unit 2827 (Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

Complete if Known Application Number 09/749,281 December 22, 2000 Gene R. Anderson **Examiner Name** Norris, Jeremy C. Attorney Docket Number 1613370 - 0017

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (f known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code	<del>-  </del>	<del> </del>	
		<sup>US-</sup> H491	07-05-1988	Pitruzzello et al.	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				Т
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND** TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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	LOSURES (Check all that	After Allowance communication			
Fee Attached  Amendment/Reply  After Final  Affidavits/declaration(s)  Extension of Time Request  Express Abandonment Request	Drawing(s)  Licensing-related Papers  Petition  Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application  Power of Attorney, Revocation  Change of Correspondence Addre  Terminal Disclaimer  Request for Refund  CD, Number of CD(s)	Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  Proprietary Information  Status Letter  Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below):  Int'l. Search Report (copy); 1 cited reference; Return Postcard			
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT  Firm James M. Wu (Reg. No. 45,241)					
or Individual name White & Case LLP, 1155 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036  Signature December 19/2003					
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Melissa McCool

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